

# ***Health Issues and Priorities***

## **Community Process**

In summary, the Health Indicator Trends that have shown an increasing trend over the past 10 years include:

- **Percent births to unwed women**
- **Percent pregnancies to unwed women**
- **Number of pregnancies/1000 females ages 15-17**
- **Violent death rates/100,000 population**
- **Chlamydia rate/100,000 population**

In analyzing these trends, the council's awareness of these problems increased dramatically. There was much discussion among the council members regarding the increasing trends for pregnancies/births to unwed women in DeKalb County. The council requested age breakdowns on pregnancy and birth information.

After a thorough analysis of all data sets, Behavioral Risk Factor Survey, and Community Health Assessment Survey, the council established priorities among a multitude of problems. In order to ensure the accuracy of the council's ranking, the Community Development staff developed a Prioritization Table that provided a means of comparison between all top issues addressed. This table presents the order ranking of each issue from both surveys and then compares the actual data to each issue. The data may either reinforce or refute the council's perceptions about their top concerns. The Prioritization Table is a culmination of the information presented to the council over the last several months and is provided in a concise and well-organized manner.